power consumption mode after the updated status of the image forming apparatus is transmitted to the server apparatus.

Preferably, the control method further comprises a return command-transmitting step of causing the server apparatus to transmit a command for causing the image forming apparatus to return from the reduced power consumption mode to the normal standby mode, when the server apparatus has received a job execution request from the information processing apparatus.

To attain the above first and second objects, in a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a network system including at least one image forming apparatus having a normal standby mode, and a reduced power consumption mode in which less electric power is consumed than in the normal standby mode, at least one information processing apparatus, and a server apparatus, connected to each other via a network, wherein the image forming apparatus transmits to the server apparatus an agency request command for requesting the server apparatus to respond to a status request, on behalf of the image forming apparatus, and a latest status of the image forming apparatus, when the image forming apparatus shifts to the reduced power consumption mode, the server apparatus receives the status request sent from the information processing apparatus to the image forming apparatus, on behalf of

the image forming apparatus, and responds to the information processing apparatus in response to the status request, based on the status received beforehand from the image forming apparatus, and the image forming apparatus transmits a changed status thereof to the server apparatus when there is a change in the status of the image forming apparatus in the reduced power consumption mode.

With the arrangement of the second aspect of the present invention, the same advantageous effects as provided by the first aspect of the present invention can be obtained.

Preferably, the image forming apparatus temporarily returns to the normal standby mode when the image forming apparatus has detected a change in the status thereof in the reduced power consumption mode, and after transmitting the changed status to the server apparatus, the image forming apparatus again shifts to the reduced power consumption mode.

To attain the above first and second objects, in a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided an image forming apparatus image connected to a server apparatus via a network, and having a normal standby mode, and a reduced power consumption mode in which less electric power is consumed than in the normal standby mode, comprising a detecting device that detects a status of the image forming apparatus, a communication

device that communicates with the server apparatus, and a control device that causes the communication device to transmit to the server apparatus an agency request command for requesting the server apparatus to respond to a status request, on behalf of the image forming apparatus, and a latest status of the image forming apparatus assumed, when the image forming apparatus shifts to the reduced power consumption mode, wherein the control device is responsive to detection of a change in the status of the image forming apparatus by the detecting device in the reduced power consumption mode, for causing the communication device to transmit a changed status of the image forming apparatus to the server apparatus.

With the arrangement of the third aspect of the present invention, the same advantageous effects as provided by the first aspect of the present invention can be obtained.

Preferably, the control device is responsive to detection of a change in the status of the image forming apparatus in the reduced power consumption mode, for causing the image forming apparatus to temporarily return to the normal standby mode, and after causing the communication device to transmit the changed status of the image forming apparatus to the server apparatus, causing the image forming apparatus to again shift to the reduced power consumption mode.

To attain the above first and second objects, in a fourth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a control method of controlling an image forming apparatus connected to a server apparatus via a network, and having a normal standby mode, and a reduced power consumption mode in which less electric power is consumed than in the normal standby mode, the control method comprising a detecting step of detecting a status of the image forming apparatus, an agency requesting step of transmitting to the server apparatus an agency request command for requesting the server apparatus to respond to a status request, on behalf of the image forming apparatus, when the image forming apparatus shifts to the reduced power consumption mode, a status transmitting step of transmitting a latest status of the image forming apparatus detected in the detecting step, and a status updating step of transmitting a changed status of the image forming apparatus to the server apparatus when a change in the status of the image forming apparatus is detected in the reduced power consumption mode in the detecting step.

With the arrangement of the fourth aspect of the present invention, the same advantageous effects as provided by the first aspect of the present invention can be obtained.

Preferably, the control method further comprises a mode changing step of causing the image forming

apparatus to temporarily return to the normal standby mode when a change in the status of the image forming apparatus is detected in the reduced power consumption mode, transmit the changed status of the image forming apparatus to the server apparatus, and then again shift to the reduced power consumption mode.

To attain the above third object, in a fifth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a control method of controlling a server apparatus connected via a network to an image forming apparatus having a normal standby mode, and a reduced power consumption mode in which less electric power is consumed than in the normal standby mode, comprising an agency request-receiving step of receiving a request command sent from the image forming apparatus, for requesting the server apparatus to receive a status request sent from an information processing apparatus connected to the network, to the image forming apparatus, on behalf of the image forming apparatus, a status receiving step of receiving a status of the image forming apparatus from the image forming apparatus, a status request-accepting step of accepting the status request from the image forming apparatus, on behalf of the image forming apparatus, and a status responding step of responding to the information processing apparatus in response to the status request, based on the status received beforehand from the image forming apparatus.